

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with following rewritten paragraph as suggested by the Examiner:

Software-based network attached storage (NAS) services are hosted on a massively distributed processing [[computing]] system [[are disclosed]] configured by coupling a multiplicity of distributed devices with a network, wherein each of the distributed devices are enabled to process workloads for the distributed processing system by a client agent program. More particularly, the client agent program is configured ~~to run on the network-connected client devices that are part of the distributed computing system to provide what appears to user devices as dedicated NAS functionality, for example, through the Internet or an intranet~~ with a NAS software component to enable selected distributed devices from the multiplicity of distributed devices to appear to client devices coupled to the network as dedicated NAS devices. ~~This NAS functionality takes advantage of unused or under-utilized resources of these distributed devices to advantageously provide NAS capabilities.~~ The NAS software component allocates an available amount of storage resources in the selected distributed devices to provide NAS services to the client devices. ~~[[In addition, storage]] Storage priority controls, including user specified constraints, standard bit, block and file priority levels, and direct bit, block or file priority markings may be utilized to facilitate the full use of the available storage resources, such as user specified constraints, standard bit, block or file priority levels and direct bit, block or file priority markings~~ amounts of unused storage in the selected distributed devices.